

PROMPTS FOR STIMULATING THINK ALOUDS

General Prompts

What are you thinking? What's going through your mind right now?
How are you doing this? How Are you figuring this out?
What are you looking at? Why?
How did you know that?

Prompts to get more information

Is there anything else you are thinking?
Can you tell me more?
What were you thinking when you were silent a moment ago?

Prompts responding to what your partner has said or done

How did you figure that out?
Why do you say that? How do you know? How does that help?
Why did you change your mind?
Why did you decide to speak or write about this? (for think aloud 2)
How did you come up with that?
Is that working for you?

Prompts for when a partner faces problems

What are you going to do about that?
How will you figure it out?

Prompts at the end of the task

Were you able to tell me out loud what was going through your mind?
Is there anything you would like to add about what you were thinking as you worked?
How would you change the way you do this task the next time?

(Adapted from The Learning Strategies Handbook, p. 70 - 71)